NURSING RESEARCH

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Incoming Mail

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article, one of the five major components of the applicant's essay is motivation. Motivation for nursing was given as an example of one of the categories in the interview form. The readiness of the candidate in terms of maturity, motivation, and history of persistence is carefully assessed from educational records, references, essay, and interview. Scores on the essay, references, and interview reflect these elements.

Yes, there may be variables that would increase the variance accounted for, but we chose to include only those that could be used legitimately in admissions decision making. Measures that would be considered discriminatory, such as financial resources, age, or sex, were purposefully excluded.

Dr. Bergstrom suggests interesting studies that could be conducted to further investigate the problem. While interesting, some of them would simply not be feasible. For example, I am not aware of any graduate nursing programs that have "open admissions policies." Also, in rating success, overall GPA may not be the best criterion, but I have no notion of how one would measure "success on professional role performance five years after program completion." Would we ask individuals to rate themselves? Would we use ratings by others? If so, would we do any better than with letters of reference?

As stated at the outset, this study raised many questions and I am pleased that someone else is interested in trying to answer some of them.—BARBARA HAZARD MUNRO, PHD, RN, *Associate Professor and Chairperson, Program in Nursing Research, School of Nursing, Yale University, New Haven, CT.*

Re: 'Appropriate Titles'

To the Editor:

I take great interest in the comments of both Jackson (*Nursing Research*, 1985, *34*, [2], 88) and Ventura and Feldman (*Nursing Research*, 1985, *34*, [2], 88). Titles should be accurate descriptors of the topic covered by the article. They should be "ultrabrief abstracts" (Linton, 1972, p. 41).

Computers may retrieve data in any format, depending on the programming commands used for the input and retrieval and may not be equipped with logistic facility to question the suitability of titles of articles. The unique identity of an article is not its membership in the subject field; it is the specific topic it addresses.

Let us consider the following hypothetical examples: "Anatomy of the Limb" and "Muscle Fibre Arrangements in the Female Biceps" both are titles that deal with the subject of the anatomy of the limb, but the second title has more specific descriptors and could enormously facilitate cross-referencing.—JOSEPH K. MUGENDI, MBCHB, (E. A.); DPM, (London) *47 Clipston Rd., Alum Rock, Birmingham, England.*

Reference

LINTON, M. (1972). *A simplified style manual: For the preparation of journal articles in psychology, social sciences, education, and literature.* New York: Appleton–Century–Crofts.

Re: 'Is There Life After the Doctorate?'

To the Editor:

Thank you for your recent editorial, "Is There Life After the Doctorate?" (*Nursing Research*, 1985, *34*, [3], 133). It has prompted me to submit an article on my dissertation research completed last spring, "An Investigation of the Effects of an Internalization Intervention on Compliance in Adult Diabetics."

Doubtlessly, after your inspiring editorial, you are deluged with inquiries from other, equally reticent, new doctorates. However, I am hopeful that my research will be of interest to your readers. I believe it has two major attributes that recommend its publication. First, the study considers topics (e.g., locus of control, compliance, chronic illness) that are the focus of increasing nursing research and that have some degree of controversy (Lowery, 1981; Miller, 1983). Second, this study was a clinical trial to test a proposed nursing intervention, an approach that can be mutually beneficial to both town (clinical) and gown (science) factions.

If you are interested in receiving my manuscript for further consideration, I would be pleased to forward it to you for review. Thank you for your consideration (and the prod!).—MAUREEN ARAKELIAN, DNSc, RN, *associate professor, Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970.*

References

LOWERY, B. (1981). Misconceptions and limitations of locus of control and the I-E Scale. *Nursing Research, 30*, 294-298.

MILLER, J. F. (1983). *Coping with chronic illness: Overcoming powerlessness.* Norwalk, CT: Appleton-Century-Crofts, p. 133.

To the Editor:

Your editorial, "Is There Life After the Doctorate?" (*Nursing Research*, 1985, *34*, [3], 133), was encouraging. I have been hoping that my disorganized behavior was not the "Peter Principle" in action, but part of a process. I am working toward organization and am inquiring as to the interest of *Nursing Research* in an article, "An Exploration of Psychological Well-Being and the Recovery Process." Please let me know if *Nursing Research* would review the article for possible publication.—CAROL A. BAKER, PHD, RNCS, *assistant professor, College of Nursing, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210.*